(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefore; and

(c) the steps taken to revive these mills?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) to (c) The BIC Ltd., and its two cotton subsidiaries namely, Elgin Mills Co. Ltd., and Cawn-pore Textiles Ltd., were referred to the BIFR due to their net worth erosion. The BIFR had recommended winding up of these companies. The Companies had gone in appeal before the AAIFR and obtained a stay. After due consideration, the AAIFR dismissed the appeals of these Companies against the winding up orders on 9.5.1997. The matters of winding up of these Companies is at present sub-judice before the High Court at Allahabad.

In respect of BIC cotton Subsidiaries, Government are offering VRS facilities to the workmen of these mills with a view to protecting their interests. In addition, wages/salaries are also being paid as also arrears of statutory dues. These facilities have been extended as a special concession for a period of three months. As far as BIC Ltd., is concerned Government is presently continuing to provide budgetary support towards payment of salaries, wages and bonus.

**Modernisation of Textile Mills**

916. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to modernise some textile mills in the country during the year 1997-98;

(b) if so the details thereof and total amount of investment proposed to be made for modernisation of textile mills in the country particularly in the State of Punjab and Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) to (c) A proposal is under formulation to facilitate modernisation, through technological upgradation, of the textiles industry. The intended objective is to improve production and productivity of the Indian Textile Industry to make it more competitive, including in the export market. Details of a Technology Upgradation Fund for textiles and jute industries are being worked out.

**Operation and maintenance of Irrigation Projects**

917. SHRI MD. SALIM: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state the percentage of the expenditure under the administrative head in the expenditure on the operation and maintenance or irrigation projects in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): As per details regarding operation and maintenance costs on Major & Medium irrigation projects available upto March 1994 (latest), the percentage of administrative expenses to overall operation and maintenance costs is about 8.2(%) for the year 1993-94.

**गुजरात में लिफ्ट सिंचाई केन्द्र**

918. **श्री गोपाल सिंह जी सोलंकी** : क्या जल संसाधन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे किः

(क) गुजरात में आज की स्थिति के अनुसार कुल कितने लिफ्ट केन्द्र चालू हालत में हैंः

(ख) क्या पचास प्रतिशत से अधिक लिफ्ट सिंचाई केन्द्र चालू हालत में नही हैं

(ग) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं, और

(घ) सरकार द्वारा सिंचाई क्षेत्रों में जल उपलब्ध कराने हेतु और सूखे की स्थिति से निपटने हेतु सरकार द्वारा क्या उपाय किए गए हैं?